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23 May 1951

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

The reservations made in the attached draft appear to offer little if any support to the solution of Service problems but do put substantial handicap in the way of career training in the Central Intelligence Agency.

The Secretary of Defense, I understand, has approved a new

I have already told General Bradley that we could consider the personnel we wish to recruit for career training as part of our new increased quota and that we would be glad to undertake the program on a two-year basis after which it could be reviewed. I also have assured General Bradley that for those few persons we might want under this program in a civilian capacity we would reimburse for the training. Consequently, it seems that for the bulk of our proposed trainees the question of reimbursement is not pertinent. However, where reimbursement is needed to get the job done, this Agency will, of course, agree.

Much more important is the restriction of our procurement to "non-Service-controlled" sources, unless this vague term is clearly and mutually agreed on. In effect, the Services control every able-bodied young man today through service career, ROTC, or draft instrument. I hope that this term, as used in the proposed JCS paper, is intended to mean those already committed to ROTC and only those. But even here, since ROTC personnel brought to this Agency would be under our military quota just as are graduates of the Service Academies, I cannot see the need of elimination of one source in this way.

In the final analysis, short of all-out war, the Services may lose any ROTC graduate upon completion of his required reserve service whether he is or is not employed by the Central Intelligence Agency, so it will certainly benefit the country if small carefully selected numbers of such personnel, having shown interest in an intelligence career and been permitted to train for it effectively, then choose to pursue that intelligence career rather than simply severing all service relationship and going to a civilian pursuit.

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where the training given by the Services will no longer be actively at work for the Government. The Agency gains small numbers that eventually the Services may lose anyway; the Services lose small numbers who might not maintain their Service connection in any event.

The expressed objection to the trainees' occupancy of Reserve Officer training spaces is, I hope, unnecessary if it is understood that these trainees will form part of the regular Central Intelligence Agency quota of military personnel which the Services would expect to provide independently of this training program.

Can this small project, which is mutually beneficial and in the interest of national security, be accepted by the defense agencies without such restrictive conditions? It has been pending for two and a half months already, and, after all, we are co-belligerents.

*Walter B. Smith*

WALTER B. SMITH  
Director

*Hand carried  
by DCI 5/23.*

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WBS/c/aml

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